On June 23, 2006, the City of Atlanta announced that a deal has been struck to bring the coveted Martin Luther King Jr. Collection back to Atlanta. The papers were scheduled to be auctioned at Sotheby’s on June 30.

The city says the transaction, of an undisclosed amount, was made possible through the unprecedented response of Atlanta business and civic leaders and other private parties. Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin said that the coalition paid a fair price for the priceless collection.

Martin Luther King Jr. was a 1948 graduate of Morehouse College. He entered Morehouse as an early admission student at the age of 15. Dr. Walter E. Massey, president of Morehouse College, said that Morehouse is where the papers should be.

“Morehouse is honored to be the recipient of this historic collection of King’s papers,” said Massey. “Given the important role Morehouse played in Dr. King’s intellectual, spiritual and moral development, we believe there simply is no better place for these papers to reside. We are grateful to the King family for their confidence in Morehouse to serve as the repository for this legacy, which reflects the best thinking of our nation’s most outstanding leader, and of Morehouse College’s most outstanding alumnus.

Morehouse is also grateful for the support of the coalition of Atlantans - led by Mayor Shirley Franklin - without whom Morehouse’s acquisition of these papers would not have been possible.

Mayor Franklin’s leadership, and the efforts and contributions of dozens of individuals and corporations, reflect the spirit of this great city, where we believe, and where we act on the belief, that anything is possible.

Although Martin Luther King Jr. was a son of Morehouse, we recognize that he was a citizen of the world. We, therefore, are committed to ensuring that this collection of Dr. King’s work is available to scholars, researchers and others who are interested in learning more about his evolution as a man and as a leader. Morehouse has engaged Dr. William Potter, University of Georgia Librarian, and Dr. Loretta Parham, director of the Robert W. Woodruff Library, to assist us in processing the collection and arranging for its temporary housing until we identify a permanent location in Atlanta where the papers will be available for public access.

Through our stewardship of the Collection of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Morehouse is proud to continue to advance the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service to which the College is committed, and for which Dr. King was known.”

Ranked three times as the number one college in the nation for educating African American students by Black Enterprise magazine, and recognized by The Wall Street Journal as one of the top feeder schools for the 15 most prominent graduate and professional schools in the country, Morehouse College is the nation’s largest, private liberal arts college for men.
The Society of Georgia Archivists is a nonprofit organization established to provide an effective means of communication and cooperation among all individuals employed in archives and manuscript repositories in the state; to promote the preservation and use of the manuscripts and archival resources of the state; to increase the knowledge of archival theories and practices; to encourage the publication of finding aids; and to cooperate with professionals in related disciplines.

The SGA Newsletter is issued four times a year. All subscriptions are for the calendar year and are based on membership dues to the Society of Georgia Archivists.

Members of SGA and related associations are encouraged to send in announcements of jobs, workshops, conferences, or other information to share. Appropriate and newsworthy notices will be printed as space permits.

The SGA Newsletter invites advertisements for archival products and services as space permits and at the editor’s discretion. Ads must be accompanied by a check made payable to the Society of Georgia Archivists. Deadlines for submissions for articles and camera-ready advertisements are March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and November 15th.

For article submission and advertisement information, please contact:
Greta Reisel Browning
Richard B. Russell Library
Main Library
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-1641
Telephone: 706-542-0618
Fax: 706-542-4144
Email: newsletter@soga.org
Calendar of Events

By Marie Force, Delta Air Transport Heritage Museum

EXHIBITIONS


EVENTS

July-September 2006, second Tuesday of each month, Lunch and Learn Series, Georgia Archives, Morrow, GA. For more information call 678-364-3730 or visit www.sos.state.ga.us/archives/want_to_be_involved/LunchandLearn/lunchlearn2006.htm.

- July 11 - Georgia Stories: History Online from Georgia Public Broadcasting, Patrice Weaver, Georgia Public Broadcasting
- August 8 - Talking Stones: What Can Cemeteries Teach Us?, Kevin Kuharic, Historic Oakland Foundation
- September 12 - Using Georgia Archives Finding Aids, Georgia Archives Reference Staff


CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS


September 26 – October 1, 2006. Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. http://www.asalh.org/

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE


Upcoming SOLINET Classes


August 24, 2006. Digital Library Program Development, SOLINET, held at The Library of Virginia, Richmond, VA, 9 am to 4 pm. www.solinet.net


SGA Wants YOU!

By Sheila McAlister, Nominating Committee Chair

SGA seeks energetic, dedicated archivists for leadership positions in the Society of Georgia Archivists beginning in 2007. The nominations committee (Sheila McAlister, Christine Wiseman, and Laura Botts) is soliciting nominations for the following positions: vice president/president-elect (two-year term), secretary (two-year term), archivist (two-year term), director (two-year term), and two nominating committee members (one-year terms). Details about the various offices are available through the Web site at http://www.soga.org/leaders/leaders.html.

If you are interested or know of someone who you think would be an asset to SGA, email the committee at nominating@soga.org. All suggestions will be entertained, but we cannot guarantee nominations.

Larry Gulley Scholarship to 2006 Annual Meeting

Larry Gulley Scholarship
The Society of Georgia Archivists each year awards a scholarship for attendance at the organization’s annual meeting in the fall and for one year membership in SGA. The purpose of the scholarship is to enhance archival education, membership, and participation in the profession. The scholarship is named for Larry Gulley, a loyal member of the Society of Georgia Archivists who gave stellar service to the organization in many capacities.
The scholarship will cover the following year’s membership dues, the meeting registration fee, and a maximum of $100 for other expenses. The registration fee for the successful scholarship applicant will be waived by the Society of Georgia Archivists, while other expense will be reimbursed upon submission of a statement of expenses, with accompanying receipts, by December 1 of the calendar year in which the meeting takes place.

Eligibility
Individuals eligible to compete for the scholarships are those engaged in compensated or volunteer archival work at any level in an institution in the state of Georgia, SGA members employed outside the state of Georgia, graduate students preparing for a career in archives at a college or university in Georgia, or SGA student members studying outside the state of Georgia. Preferences will be given to applicants who do not have access to institutional support for attending the fall annual meeting. Individuals may apply or be nominated by a supervisor or instructor.

To Apply
To apply for the Larry Gulley Scholarship, please fill out and mail in our on-line application. Application deadline is September 1. For more information regarding either of these scholarships, please contact: Gilbert Head, SGA Scholarship Committee, University of Georgia Archives, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Athens, GA 30602-1641; scholarships@soga.org
A new database from the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center will guide researchers on where to find invention-related documents and collections. The MIND (Modern Inventors Documentation) database identifies the invention-related holdings of hundreds of archives across the United States and is the nation’s first database devoted exclusively to such documents. The collections in the database cover a variety of subjects, with many from medical, consumer, scientific, household and legal fields. With more than 1,700 records when it debuted in May, it is continuing to grow daily as more archives, museums, libraries and historical societies report the contents of their invention-related collections to the Smithsonian for inclusion in the MIND database. Users simply submit a key word to search and if the invention is in the database it will note what materials exist about the invention, which museum, archive or library holds the collection, and how to contact them for more details. Where possible, there is also information on how to access the collection and a direct web link to the collection or its holder. Advanced search options allow the user to search by repository, inventor name, or collection title. Users can also search for inventions from a list of over sixty subjects.

To access the MIND database, please visit: invention.smithsonian.org/MIND. Repositories with relevant collections are invited to contribute information about their holdings. Requests to participate in the database can be sent to: Alison Oswald at oswalda@si.edu.
Membership Spotlight

By Leigh Ann Ripley, Digital Library of Georgia

Name: Carol Bishop
SGA Member since: 2004
Job Title: University of Georgia Processing Assistant
Place of Employment: University of Georgia Archives/Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library
Years in Current Position: 2 ½ years
Job Description: My job involves processing the papers of UGA administrators, faculty, and departments. In addition, I am the web editor for the department.

Education: As of May 2006, I am a brand new graduate of Valdosta State University’s MLIS program.

Other Work Experience: I previously worked in the Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library’s Rare Books unit and in the Access Services department of the UGA Library.

Professional Memberships: SGA

Most Enjoyable Aspect(s) of Your Job: I find the processing of various UGA faculty and administrator’s papers to have a certain fascinating aspect to it with even the most mundane-appearing collection often holding items of great potential interest to some researcher.

Additionally I enjoy acting as the web editor for:
*Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library http://www.libr.uga.edu/hargrett/speccoll.html

Alternative Career Path (not in archives): A personal fitness trainer or the host of a show on Food Network.

Favorite Pastimes: Recently I have become interested in trying to get in good physical shape and have obtained pretty good results from doing a combination of Pilates, Yoga and weight training. In addition, I love to cook (which is why the interest in exercise is vital) and I am trying (somewhat slowly) to teach myself how to sew.

Comments on the Profession Today: The profession seems to be lively today as many archivists reexamine and debate time honored archival practices such as how processing decisions may affect the availability of collections. Also archivists are taking the lead in working to preserve documents endangered by the recent upsurge in weather related disasters and striving to prevent future losses resulting from such events.
According to Wikipedia.com, a blog (a blended word made by contracting the phrase “web log”) is a website in which items are posted on a regular basis and displayed in reverse chronological order. There are blogs that contain many topics, but most seem to be directed towards a particular group, such as radical moms or knitters. Some institutions and individual archivists are using blogs to draw attention to important issues, to educate patrons of activities, and to provide a stable place to visit for professional and informational resources on topics that change daily.

The Johnson Library Archives & Special Collections, Southern Polytechnic State University
http://spsuarchive.blogspot.com/
This blog records the progress of the archives and special collections of the Southern Polytechnic State University’s Lawrence V. Johnson library in Marietta, Georgia. Begun in September 2005, the blog includes monthly progress reports, changes to the library and archives, future projects, and other topics such as preserving SPSU’s educational history. The writing is clear and eloquent, and the pictures that illustrate the blog highlight both the archives and the collections.

Digitization 101
http://hurstassociates.blogspot.com/
This blog is the creation of Hurst Associates, Ltd. where Ms. Hurst discusses issues, topics, and lessons learned surrounding the creation, management, marketing and preservation of digital assets. This is a very active blog, with an entry almost every day. She provides links to resources on digitization and copyright, as well as highlighting upcoming conferences and symposiums.

The Society of Qualified Archivists
http://thesocietyofqualifiedarchivists.blogspot.com/
Their tag line is “Taking British archives forward in the battle against political correctness.” Listed on the UNESCO Archives portal, this blog will provide a quirky, sometimes irreverent view from across the pond. Professional resources are linked to this site, and topics such as “EU Trends” and “Security and Conservation Issues” can be found here in tandem with “Standards? What Standards?”.

HangingTogether.org
http://www.hangingtogether.org
This is a blog maintained by four staff members at the Research Libraries Group, where they can talk about the intersections they see happening between libraries, archives, and museums. Topics include archives, descriptive metadata, digital preservation, and sharing content. Information from various related conferences is also given, providing the reader with an insider’s view.

The Digital Archive
http://digitalpermanence.blogspot.com/
The Digital Archive is a weblog from Canada about digitization, digital preservation, and other digital tidbits for librarians, archivists, and information professionals working and thinking inside cyberspace. This blog has multiple links to websites and blogs on digital topics, allowing users to jump from this site to related sites. The blogger also remarks on trends such as the increasing use of RSS (Really Simple Syndication) and changes in search strategies among users.


Mark Your Calendar!
SGA Annual Meeting
November 1-3, 2006
Spelman College
Atlanta, GA
Morgan County Archives (Decatur)
John Allison is the new Archivist for Morgan County. He succeeds Susan Bzdell, who passed away in December 2005. John is from Decatur, Alabama, but for the past 10 years has been located in Washington, DC, as a graduate student and as a historical researcher. He received his MA from the University of Maryland, College Park. The Morgan County Archives may be reached at 256.351.4726 or at mocoarch@ix.netcom.com.

John Allison

Trenholm State Technical College (Montgomery)
Trenholm State joined in the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, the 45th Anniversary of the Freedom Rides, and the 41st Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act by hosting an archives gallery exhibit. The exhibit featured t-shirts and buttons from the Gwen Patton Collection.

Gwen Patton

Troy University - Dothan Campus
The Archives of Wiregrass History and Culture at Troy University—Dothan Campus has processed a very interesting collection of standardized tests (intelligence, achievement, interest, personality, etc.). Entitled “Records of the Testing Center, College of Education, Troy University—Dothan Campus” (Accession 003-05-0330), the 4.5 cubic foot collection spans the years 1931-1992 and contains samples of tests, answer keys, result logs, instructions, and full spec kits. The collection documents the evolution of standardized testing through the twentieth century as well as the changes in psychological and aptitude testing at one small college. An online, folder-level inventory has been posted to http://dothan.troy.edu/archives/inventories/003tc.htm.

Martin Olliff

University of Alabama at Birmingham
The Lawrence Reynolds Papers have recently been opened at the UAB Archives. Dr. Reynolds, an Alabama native who practiced radiology in Detroit, Michigan, was the benefactor of UAB’s Reynolds Historical Library. Of particular interest in the Reynolds Papers are the records and photographs from his service with the American Ambulance Service of the American Expeditionary Forces in France during World War I.

The UAB Archives has also added a new feature to its newly redesigned webpage. The “Image of the Month” highlights photographs from the collection and can be found at http://www.uab.edu/historical/Image-Month.htm.

Jennifer Beck
NATIONAL ARCHIVES NEWS: NARA has issued a rule regarding short-term electronic records, including e-mails, that allows those with minimal or no documentary value and copies of replies requiring no administrative action or policy decisions and no special research for compilation of a reply to be kept on the agency’s e-mail system without being copied into a record-keeping system ... On March 22, 2006 over 400,000 telegrams and other documents—such as index references and withdrawal notices—from the State Department’s Central Foreign Policy Files for 1973-1974 were made available online on NARA’s web site. ... NARA received a data file containing information on former prisoners of war of the Japanese during World War II from the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor on April 4, 2006. The records on the 29,813 former POW’s were created by combining the organization’s membership cards with records from NARA. ... On April 10, 2006 NARA announced the appointment of Timothy Naftali as the first Director of the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum. He has a Ph.D. in history from Harvard University, has taught at Yale University and the University of Hawaii, been a consultant to the Nazi War Crimes and Imperial Japanese Government Records Interagency Working Group, worked as a contractor to the 9/11 Commission and, for the last six years, has been the Director of the Presidential Recordings Program at the University of Virginia’s Miller Center. ... NARA expects the initial release of its Electronic Records Archives to occur in September 2007.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: On March 22, 2006 the Library released a report on current standards and best practices to achieve the best possible audio transfer from analog discs and tapes. An online version of the report can be found at www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub137abst.html. ... The Library named another fifty recordings to the National Recording Registry on April 11, 2006. They included the 1925 inauguration of President Calvin Coolidge, the first official transatlantic telephone conversation in 1927, “Blueberry Hill” by Fats Domino (1956) and “Songs in the Key of Life” by Stevie Wonder (1976). At the same time the Library announced it had discovered a rare recording of a December 29, 1940 jazz jam session featuring Lester Young. ... On April 14, 2006 the Library announced it had acquired a collection of 1926-1927 test pressing recordings of blues composer Robert Johnson. ... Nearly 40,000 digitized images made from glass plate negatives from the George Grantham Bain news photograph collection, documenting the period 1900-1931, were made available through the Library’s Prints and Photographs Online Catalog. World War I posters are also online. ... On May 25, 2006 the Library announced the launch of a new website describing its efforts to capture and preserve historically important websites; the address is www.loc.gov/webcapture. ... That same day marked the release of 22 digitized collections—including interviews, letters, memoirs, and photographs—relating to military intelligence as part of the Library’s Veterans History Project. ... On May 26, 2006 the Library released its online Performing Arts Encyclopedia at www.loc.gov/performingarts/encyclopedia. It includes links to various resources—such as recorded sound, motion pictures, manuscripts, and rare books—available in various departments within the Library.

OTHER FEDERAL NEWS: On April 4, 2006 the Government Accountability Office released a report on private information services used by the government and their adherence to federal rules regarding privacy. It found that they often do not follow the privacy rules by not notifying individuals when information is collected, restricting access to an individual’s own records, and having no process to correct errors in those records. ... The Office of Personnel Management has changed the Archival Occupation Series educational standards to expand the type of history courses that can be credited towards qualification as an Archivist and include classes in archival science as part of that qualifying coursework. ... The initial batch of documents and other material from Iraq and Afghanistan captured during Operation Iraqi Freedom was released by the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in March 2006. They can be found on the U.S. Army Foreign Studies website.
Preservation News

By Kara M. McClurken, SOLINET

Preservation News is a quarterly column intended to disseminate timely and newsworthy information about preservation in libraries and archives. News items are collected from printed sources (newsletters, journals, press releases), information gathered at conferences and meetings, electronic mailing lists, and Web sites. Priority is given to items of particular interest to archivists and librarians in the Southeastern U.S. Topics include reports on developments in the field, training opportunities, new publications and services, and information on funding sources and grant deadlines. Please submit your preservation news to Kara McClurken at 404-592-4876, or kmclurken@solinet.net.

1. Hurricane Forecasts for 2006

The 2006 Atlantic seasonal hurricane forecasts are out and the forecasters are predicting an above average number of hurricanes this season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Hurricane forecast predicts an 80% chance of an above-normal hurricane season, with 13-16 named storms, 8-10 hurricanes and 4-6 major hurricanes. For more details, see http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outlooks/hurricane.shtml. The Colorado State University’s Tropical Meteorology Project predicts an above average number of hurricanes this season as well. According to the “Extended Range Forecast of Atlantic Seasonal Hurricane Activity and U.S. Landfall Strike Probability for 2006,” they predict 17 named storms during the season, with 9 of them developing into hurricanes, and 5 of them becoming major hurricanes. Last year there were a total of 23 named storms, with 13 of them developing into hurricanes, 7 of which were major. The reports states that there is an 81% chance that at least one major hurricane (category 3, 4 or 5) will hit somewhere along the U.S. coastline, a 64% chance that one will hit the East Coast (including Peninsula Florida), and a 47% chance that a hurricane will hit the Gulf Coast. There is also an above average chance that a hurricane will hit landfall in the Caribbean. One can read the report along with previous years’ hurricane forecasts at http://hurricane.atmos.colostate.edu/forecasts/.

2. Best Practices for Transferring Analog Audio Discs and Tapes

The Council for Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and the Library of Congress recently published a report of a roundtable discussion on the best practices for converting analog audio discs and tapes to a digital medium. The discussion included pre-transfer activities such as format identification, cleaning, and repairs of analog materials as well as capture and transfer procedures. The report, Capturing Analog Sound Preservation for Digital Preservation: Report of a Roundtable Discussion of Best Practices for Transferring Analog Discs and Tapes is available as a free PDF file at http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub137/pub137.pdf . One can also purchase printed copies of the report for $20.00 at http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub137abst.html. A second report, due out later in the year, will focus on digital technology standards, such as file formats, metadata, storage, and software issues.

3. Product Database for Cultural Objects

The Centre de Conservation de Quebec (CCQ) has created a database of supplies for art, artifacts, and archival documents. The database, called “Preserv’Art,” contains photographs, descriptions, health and safety information, alternate product names, and names of vendors in Canada and the United States that sell products to store, transport and display cultural artifacts. There is also a bibliography of articles written about the products. The database does not contain product prices, nor does it contain supplies for film or audiovisual materials. The database is available in French and English at http://preservart.ccp.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/index.aspx.

4. National Preservation Websites

The Council on State Archivists has compiled a list of Emergency Planning and Recovery Resources on state archives websites. The list, located at http://www.statearchivists.org/arc/states/res_disa.htm, is arranged alphabetically by state, and includes procedures for disaster planning and salvage for individuals, local and state governments, libraries, and archives. Several state disaster plans are also included.

The Regional Alliance for Preservation (RAP) has launched a new website at www.PreserveCollections.org. RAP provides information and resources on preservation and conservation for cultural institutions and the public throughout the United States. The new website includes classes and services provided by RAP members, a searchable bibliography of full text reports and documents, and bibliographies on collections care tailored specifically to libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, and house museums.
Preservation News

5. New Online Preservation Courses from SOLINET
The Southeastern Library Network is offering three new distance education classes later this summer: “Basic Digital Stewardship: Are You Ready?”, “Care and Handling of Public Library Materials,” and “Caring for Originals during Scanning Projects.” For more information on these two-hour online classes, see http://www.solinet.net/workshops/Inventorylist.cfm#Preservation.

6. The Library in Bits and Bytes: A Digital Library Symposium
The University of Maryland Libraries’ Digital Collections and Research has published online the symposium proceedings from “The Library in Bits and Bytes: A Digital Library Symposium,” held September 29th, 2005 at the University of Maryland. The online publication, located at http://www.lib.umd.edu/dcr/events/symposium/epubs.html, includes remarks by session presenters, panelists, and poster presenters on how library practice has embraced and is challenged by digital library initiatives.

The spring issue of the Heritage Preservation Update features a summary and photo gallery of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force meeting, the new version of the Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel, and information on preservation grants. The issue is available online at http://www.heritagepreservation.org/update/2006/06spring.htm.

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New Disaster-Planning Tool Available

The Northeast Document Conservation Center and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners Announce: dPlan™: The Online Disaster-Planning Tool

What is dPlan?

DPlan is a free Web-based fill-in-the-blank program for writing institutional disaster plans.

It was created, tested, and refined by the Northeast Document Conservation Center and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

DPlan is designed to help institutions of all sizes.

To use dPlan, or to view the introductory demo, go to: www.dplan.org. For more information, contact Lori Foley of NEDCC, lfoley@nedcc.org or Gregor Trinkaus-Randall of MBLC, gregor.trinkaus-randall@state.ma.us